losses incurred by BALCO are as under:—

Year	Rs. in crores
1984-85	14·75*
1985-86	77·37*
1986-87 (upto October, 1986)	46·72*

(*Interest holiday granted on Government Loans)

The main reasons for losses incurred by the company are:-

(i) The gap between the retention price of aluminium and its actual cost of production;

(ii) Non-supply of adequate power by Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board till August, 1985 leading to non-utilisation of full installed capacity of the smelter and high rates for power charged by MPEB.

(iii) Provision during 1986-87 for payment of interest on Government loan.

The matter for reduction in power tariff was taken up with the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh and discussions were held with him. As a result thereof, Government of Madhya Pradesh has agreed to reduce the cost of power from 75 paise to 67 paise per unit. This would help BALCO to reduce its losses during 1986-87 by a sum of over Rs. 14 crores. Capital restructuring of the company is also engaging the attention of the Government. The company has also been affecting reduction in specific consumption of raw materials, power, fuel and consumable stores.

White Paper on Steel Industry

3395. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring out a white paper on steel industry; and

(b) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b) Government are engaged in reviewing the growth and present situation of the steel industry and mapping out its direction and course of development till the end of the century. It is yet to be decided whether this survey will be brought out in the form of a White Paper.

Custom Milling of Rice by Food Department of Punjab and its Agencies

3396. SARDAR JAGJIT SINGH AURORA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Department of Punjab and two State agencies have undertaken custom milling of rice on behalf of the F.C.I. since 1980-81 at 'no profit no loss' basis;

(b) whether the State Government had represented that for undertaking custom milling, it has incurred loss of about Rs. 40 crores during the above period;

(c) whether it is a fact that the details of all costs incurred by the State Government were discussed and sanctioned in 1980-81; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Central Government have taken unilateral decision to sanction block incidentals, thereby causing huge losses to the State Government and its agencies?